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cription of the more remarkable constellations and stars; and the course of certain lines and circles (the Equator, Ecliptic, Tropics, &c.) were traced by remarkable stars, whose position could, I am sure, be made intelligible by words. There are several Triangles formed by stars. There might, I think, be given an enumeration of these, the magnitude of the stars composing each, and the species of triangle formed. These little pieces of information, which perhaps most readers could acquire after some search, but which four out of five will be too indolent to look after, would raise curiosity, invite a more general attention, and render the extract from FREND as generally amusing and useful, as any part of your miscellany.

I am yours, &c.
STAR-GAZER.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

I LATELY met with a very interesting book, written by Robert Sutcliff, a Quaker, entitled, "Travels in part of North America, &c." The following passage from which, I think worthy of a place in your valuable repository.

"I PURSUED my way to Richmond (Virginia) in the mail stage, through a beautiful country, but clouded and debased by Negro slavery. At the house where I breakfasted, which is called the Bowling-Green, I was told that the owner had in his possession two hundred slaves. In one field near the house, planted with tobacco, I counted near twenty women and children, employed in picking grubs from the plant. In the afternoon, I passed by a field, in which several poor slaves had been lately executed, on the charge of having an intention to rise against their masters. A Lawyer, who was present at their trials at Richmond, informed me, that on one of them being asked, what he had to say to the Court in his defence, he replied, in a manly tone of voice, "I have nothing more to offer, than what General Washington would have had to offer, had he been taken by the British, and put to trial by them. I have adventured my life, in endeavouring to obtain the liberty of my countrymen, and am a willing sacrifice in their cause; and I beg, as a favour, that I may be immediately led to execution. I know that you have pre-determined to shed my blood, why then all this mockery of trial?"

I must trouble you with one more observation of this writer, in the course of his journey three days after.

"On entering into conversation with an inspector, as he was employed in looking over a parcel of tobacco, he lamented the licentiousness which he remarked so generally prevailed in this town. He said, that in his remembrance, the principal part of the inhabitants were emigrants from Scotland, and that it was considered so reproachful to the white inhabitants, if they were found to have an illicit connection with their female slaves, that their neighbours would shun the company of such, as of persons with whom it was a reproach to be acquainted. The case was now so much altered, that he believed there were but few slave-holders in that place, who were free from guilt in this respect, and that it was now thought but little of. Such was the brutality and hardness of heart which this evil produced, that many a. mongst them paid no more regard to selling their own children, by

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their female slaves, or even their brothers and sisters, in the same line, than they would do to the disposal of a cow or a horse, or any other property of the brute creation. To so low a degree of degradation does the system of Negro slavery sink the white inhabitants, who are unhappily engaged in it."

There are likewise some observations on General Washington's having slaves, at the time that he said he was fighting for liberty. I wish I could see this book in your review.

## For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF RE-COVERY AND FEVER HOSPITAL, IN CORK-STREET, DUBLIN, FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 4TH JANUARY, 1813.

THE Committee, in making their Annual Report, have to communicate to the subscribers, and the public, two serious and important facts, which have occurred within the past year.

The number of patients admitted have increased to the alarming number of 2273, (being 795 more than in the former year, and 1020 more tnan the average of the seven years preceding,) and the funds have failed in meeting this extraordinary pressure.

The Committee had, from the circoinstance of an increase in the two former years, judged it necessary to make application for an additional Parliamentary grant of 1000, which they received: not withstanding this, they found that their funds were, from the extensively increased de-mand for admission, likely to fall considerably short of the expenditure; they, therefore, on the 29th October last, addressed the public,

stating the facts, and calling for additional aid; and they are sorry to be obliged to say, that but a small sum has been put into their hands in consequence; this appeal after stating the great increase of admissions, proceeds as follows.

"The fact being incontrovertible, it may be asked, why it has been so? And whether the cause or causes producing said increase, have been temporary, or promise in a certain degree to be permanent? To throw light on a question which the Committee are anxious to place before the public in a clear point of view, it is to be remarked, that on the opening of the Hospital on the 14th of May, 1804, the district, from which persons afflicted with contagious fever were received, was confined to five parishes within the Liberty: on the 14th May, 1805, all the sick poor labouring under the above disease, residing on the South side of the river Liffey, and within the boundary of the Circular-road, were admitted: on the 1st of September, 1807, the benefits of the Charity were opened to female servants, of every description, labouring under contagious fever within' the district, [heretofore excluded:] on the 1st of June, 1808, the same indulgence was extended, for the first time, to male servants of every description as above: and on the 5th of January, 1809, the district was finally enlarged, so as to comprehend the whole of the City of Dublin, within the Circular-road.

"In addition to these facts, the Committee are enabled to state, from an experience of several years past, that the following causes have likewise contributed to increase the pressure on this Hospital.

"1st. The benefits afforded to the sick poor, by the humanity and professional skill of the physicians, which have at all times been active-